

The Daily Republican.

HAMSHER & MOSSER, Publishers.

DECATUR, ILLINOIS:

Wednesday Evening, April 18.

THE VAGRANT ACT.

The tramp nuisance has become a serious one in this country. The important question has been "How to abate it." The panic, the hard times, the lack of employment have driven thousands to begging their way through the land. Some are well disposed and willing to work if they can get a chance. Some have added to idleness recklessness and dissoluteness, and have become a terror to all communities. Our state legislature has attempted to remedy the evil by a well matured bill, which has already passed the house and will be likely to pass the senate. Its terms are quite severe, and if enforced will rid the land of both involuntary tramps and the dangerous classes which infest the larger cities and towns of this state. Moreover, if enforced it will be likely to materially diminish our population, ridding us largely of these elements. We can better spare them than any other state can receive them. The following description embraces those sought to be punished by the bill:

All persons who are idle and dissolute, and who go about begging; all persons who use any juggling or other unlawful games or plays; runaways, pilferers, confidence men, common drunkards, common night-walkers, levellers, and lascivious persons in speech and behavior; common rakers or brayers; persons who are habitually neglectful of their employment or calling, and do not lawfully provide for themselves or for the support of their families; and all persons who are idle or dissolute, and who neglect all lawful business, and who habitually mis-spend their time by frequenting houses of ill-fame, gaming houses or tipping shops; all persons lodging in or found in the night time in out houses, sheds, barns or unoccupied buildings, or lodging in the open air and not giving a good account of themselves; and all persons who are known to be thieves, burglars, or pickpockets, either by their own confession or otherwise, or by having been convicted of larceny, burglary or other crime against the laws of the state, and having no lawful means of support, or habitually found prowling around a steamboat landing, railroad landing, railroad depot, banking institution, broker's office, place of public amusement, auction room, store, shop or crowded thoroughfare, cars or omnibuses, or any public gathering or assembly, or lounging about any court room, private dwelling houses, or out houses, or are found in any house of ill-fame, gambling house or tipping shop.

The editor of the New York *Christian Advocate* takes little more stock in the Southern policy than some of his Boston brethren, and in a late issue of the paper summarizes the Louisiana situation as follows: "The Nicholls government has a probable income from general taxation of \$500,000. It has authorized \$900,000 of expenditures, and of this sum \$800,000 of scrip is issued as receivable for taxes. It cries down with the returning board and substitutes a board of canvassers with the same powers. The only difference is that this last is in the hands of the other party. It is to be hoped that Hayes will not let his Cabinet feed him on promises, empty names, and chaff."

BLAINE didn't include the Boston *Traveler* when he said the Boston papers didn't represent the stalwart Republican sentiment of New England. The *Traveler* says: "President Hayes and Governor Packard were elected by the vote of Louisiana, and the junks who discredit Governor Packard's right by that act invite President Hayes to step down and out. There may be ways of dodging that fact, but they are not honest ways."

It seems to be conceded that in case of war Russia will move her armies through Roumania to the Danube—the northern boundary line of Turkey. But here she will meet line of fortifications. The fortresses of Sistria and Schauma are spoken of as impregnable, and Rustchuk in the center, and Vidin to the west, all on the river, are very strong positions. The first trial of strength may be on the Danube, or, as is intimated, Russia may use her Black Sea fleet to strike at another point.

The Secretary of the Treasury will do a good thing for himself and the service by reinstating Elmer Washburne chief of the secret service. He is a thoroughly honest and competent officer, and we have good reason to believe that his removal was secured by very unfair and improper influences. But as to Bluford Wilson, the ex-soldier of the Treasury, there is room for grave doubt. His official conduct proved him a busy body, and his evidence under oath revealed the character of a contemptible Paul Pry. Civil service reform does not depend upon the vindication of Bluford Wilson.

PROF. S. S. BALDWIN.

He Does Not Expose Because He Can't.

EDS. REPUBLICAN:—The great would be exposed of the varied phenomena claimed to belong to spiritualism has been with us, giving us an exhibition of his proficiency in his art of trickery; which, with his pleasing and affable address, wit, and the incidents he has in store to relate occurring in his profession, made it quite an enjoyable entertainment. But the show on paper distributed over town a week or so in advance was more awe-inspiring than the show upon the operatic stage.

To many, no doubt, who were present at his entertainment, who had never attended a real "spiritual show," he had described spiritual phenomena of all his mysterious—thrown a bomb shell, as we were, into the camp of the believers, dispersing them to silence and solitude, and I might believe that they are now repenting of their folly in being deluded after a phantom trickery.

Many knew that I had given some attention to the investigation of these phenomena, and since Prof. B.'s expose (?) I have been accosted with "What do you think now?"—"blustered splendidly, ain't it?" "How are you spiritualism?"—gone higher than (mark the expression) the life of Becher's Christ." Smiling as though Prof. B.'s tricks with their explanation, and the peculiar emphasis on their interrogations had quashed spiritual phenomena, and I driven the adherents of spiritualism (who can be counted by the millions) into absolute silence. To them, I would say specially, do not entertain the idea, let alone a thought of victory. They will not depart from that which demonstrates that man is a spirit, that that spirit is immortal, and can return after the change, misnamed death, and hold intercourse with human beings on earth—that being all that true spiritualism claims.

Now, before noticing some of his tricks—the most puzzling ones, let us run back to a letter of the professor's of Aug. 21st, 1876, written at San Francisco, Cal., and printed in a Boston paper—the *Speaker of Light*, over his own signature. In that letter occurs this, "My business is simply the exposure of spiritualistic humbuggs." From the implication of his own language, he has nothing to say against the truthful workers in the cause of spiritualism.

Now let us notice the most puzzling tricks; viz., clairvoyancy, independent slate writing, and materialization. Now here we have three different subjects to dispose of:

1st. Clairvoyancy.—The Prof. requested to the committee to write several little "pellets" was readily granted. He required more than one to give him an opportunity to extract one from the many without notice, open it, read it, and this gave knowledge of the question written. Having this knowledge it was a trifling affair to put a few words together, forming a suitable answer to the question. What if the committee had refused to write more than one? Why, Prof. B. would have had to know, according to his own explanation, unless he was really possessed of clairvoyant powers. I know there are persons possessed of this power, who can read what is written on one little "pellet" thrown on the table before them. Hence the question arises, did he expose? If so, what?

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April 18th and 19th.

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SCOTT, Press Agent.

Agent.

The Daily Republic.

DECATUR, ILLINOIS.

We publish Evening, April 18.

CITY DEPARTMENT.

Cooler breezes to day.
Too much mud for successful plowing.

The garden-rite is doing good service.

Water in the river is at just the right stage for fishing.

Fish worms were plenty after the showers the other night, but we have not heard of any along as John Scott's.

Peachblow potatoes, of superior quality, at Neely's, near the Mount.

Choice sugar cured hams and breakfast bacon, at Newell & Hammer's.

Order Downing's back for a trip to the depot, or a drive about town.

Taylor's black connects with all trains by day or night.

Post keeps on hand a full line of musical goods, including always the latest publications and most popular songs.

Abel & Locke have now in stock all the latest styles of carpet goods, having invaded them direct from Europe.

A full and complete assortment of rugs and mats may always be found at Abel & Locke's.

Chamois skins, sponges, and all varieties of brushes, at W. C. Armstrong's.

The Laux Brothers have as fine every rigs as are to be found in Central Illinois, at their stables just south of the St. Nicholas hotel.

Marshal Pringle is ordering people to clean up their yards.

The Richings-Bernard operatoupe on Monday evening next.

Fishermen are going for the finny tribe these days.

Bloomington has a man who was struck with a lightning rod instead of lightning. As the result of the stroke, the Leader remarked that "his eye looked numerous the next morning."

This is the time of year when the head of the house is asked to "move those things out of the cellar," and "fix up the garling."

Lawrence Barrett played at Bloomington last night, appearing as Iago, in Shakespeare's tragedy of Othello.

Our Justices report business very dull, indicating that people are on their good behavior.

We hear of suspicious looking characters lurking about in different parts of the city. People will do well to keep a sharp lookout and keep their doors locked. Constant vigilance is the price of security for property these days.

Bloomington is putting on metropolitan airs, the mail carriers in that city are to be dressed in uniform.

The bugle blast of the circus agent is heard in the distance, proclaiming the coming of ten immense shows in one, with tents innumerable, and menagerie and circus, such as the world never saw. We presume that some of them will pitch tent in Decatur before many weeks.

Mr. C. A. Conklin having purchased the nice new house on West William street, built by Mr. B. W. Dickinson, is sodding the grounds and otherwise improving them, making for himself one of the most inviting and commodious homes in the city.

It is thought by some that in case of war between Turkey and Russia, it would be well to advise the rulers of those powers of the large number of chaps there are in Decatur who are "waiting for something to turn up," who might be induced to "leave the country for their country's good" and go on a soldiering tour on the other side of the big pond. This might be good for Decatur and for the boys, but it would be rough on the people over there.

Mr. Virgil Park having bought the place at the corner of Prairie and Church streets, known as the White property, has moved the house about forty feet toward the west side of the lot, and is fitting it up in good shape, and proposes to rent it. The paint and other repairs make it look like another house.

From all parts of the country we receive encouraging reports as to crop prospects, and should there be no bright there will be a large yield of cherries and other small fruits. Apples also promise well, but peaches seem to be mostly killed.

PERSONAL MENTION.

We are happy to learn that Mr. Frank Caldwell is steadily, though slowly improving.

Mr. Black, of the firm of W. F. Bush & Co., is arranging to make a trip with his family to Ohio, and some other points, with the expectation of being absent several weeks. Mr. B.'s health has been quite poor for some time, and he hopes that by rest from business he may recuperate, and return with vigorous health.

We are happy to learn that Mr. John Irwin, who has been very sick for several weeks, shows gradual improvement in his condition, though he is by no means out of danger. Should no new disease set in it is thought he will be on his feet again in a few weeks.

Mr. D. K. Wilson, of Friends Creek, is in the city to day.

Professor Cooke, who is to give an expose of Spiritualism at the Opera House to-night, arrived at noon to day. He and his manager, Mr. Day, made the REPUBLICAN office a pleasant call this afternoon.

TEMPERANCE MASS MEETING.

LIST OF LETTERS
Remaining in the Post Office, at Decatur, Macon Co., Ills., uncalled for, April 18, 1877.

Adrich T. J. Luthicum Evaline Lane W. J.
Anderson J. L. Linley W. J.
Blankenship E. H. Miller Lizzie Miller Mary
Bell Samuel Miller George McNutt D. R.
Boucherie Wm. Newell Jack (col.) Nardy George
Boeker Aaron Parker W. Parker Robert
Bothers Annie Parke W. Robbins Cary B.
Boyer Isaac Retteman Jane Rock John
Bos Nettie Thorburn Belle Wilson Morrison
Cleaver Jno. N. T. W. W. Wm. H.
Creek F. D. W. Wm. H. Walmeley W. H.
Tairns Geo. S. Yancey Ambrose Lang Ely.

R. P. LYTTLE, P. M.

Pianos and Organs.—We are happy to learn that Mr. C. B. Prescott, the enterprising music dealer, has the Agency for the celebrated Weber Piano, which took the highest prize at the Centennial, and that he is also General Agent for the Western Cottage Organ, the best instrument of its kind known to the trade. Mr. P. has sold pianos to Mr. D. J. Block, Mrs. Dr. Roberts, Mr. J. Shultz, Mr. Bishop, and Mr. Jesse Fisher, of Tyson, Pa.—all within two weeks. His rooms are in Post Office block.

April 18-d&w11

White and Colored Shirts in stock and made to order at Keeler's Hat Store. mar28-daw1m

FRENCH BROCHE SHAWLS and BLACK

GROS GRAIN DRESS SILKS, at

APRIL 15-22W. TUES. A. GEHRMANN'S.

A Large Lot of new Prints just re-

ceived, 16 yards for \$1.00, at

APRIL 10-11W. S. EINSTEIN'S.

You can get a pair of ladies' kid side-

lace shoes for \$2. at

BARBER & BAKER'S.

MARCH 22 d&w1W.

A Large Lot of new prints, at 6 cents,

at Linn & Scruggs'.

APRIL 12 d&w11

DECATUR MARKET REPORT.

DECATUR, April 18, 1877.

RETAIL.

Lard, per pound, 15

Ham, " 15

Shoulder, " 15

Green apples, per peck, 25

Red apples, " 30

Onions, per peck, 10

Apples, per bushel, 1.00

Turnips, per peck, 25

Cabbages, each, 10

Cider, per gallon, 10

Vinegar, " 15

Butter, packed, per pound, 25

Flour—white, per hundred, 40

red, " 35

superfine, " 35

" milled, " 30

CORN MEAL—per bushel, 70

Rye, " bushel, 10

CORN—shelled, per bushel, 40

HAY—Timothy, per ton, 10

DAISY—per bushel, 30

WHEAT—per bushel, 1.25

COATS—per dozen, 15

BUTTER—per lb., 20

Eggs—per dozen, 12

EGGS—per dozen, 12

BACON—shells, 12

HAMS—sugar-cured, 12

SHOULDERS—per lb., 80

CHOPS—per hundred, 80

CATTLE— 50

POTATOES—per bushel, 75

PEACHES—Dried, per lb., 10

APPLES—Green bushel, 75

WHOLESALE.

WHEAT—Best white, per bushel, 1.25

COATS—per dozen, 15

BUTTER—per lb., 20

Eggs—per dozen, 12

EGGS—per dozen, 12

BACON—shells, 12

HAMS—sugar-cured, 12

SHOULDERS—per lb., 80

CHOPS—per hundred, 80

CATTLE— 50

POTATOES—per bushel, 75

PEACHES—Dried, per lb., 10

APPLES—Green bushel, 75

VELOCIPEDES!

We have just received a line of the

